

PESTICIDE INCIDENT REPORTING AND TRACKING REVIEW PANEL

MEETING SUMMARY

AUGUST 18, 2005

WASHINGTON STATE PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY
1610 NE 150TH STREET, ROOM S-4, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

PANEL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Maryanne Guichard, Chair	Department of Health (DOH)	(360) 236-3391
Lucy Harter, Coordinator	Department of Health	(360) 236-3356
Allan Felsot	Washington State University (WSU)	(509) 372-7365
Steven Gilbert	Practicing Toxicologist	(206) 527-0926
Karen Ripley	Department of Natural Resources (DNR)	(360) 902-1691
William Robertson	Washington Poison Center (WPC)	(206) 517-2356
Dorothy Tibbetts	Department of Health	(360) 236-3361
Gabrielle Toutonghi	Department of Labor and Industries (L&I)	(360) 902-5478
Ann Wick	Department of Agriculture (WSDA)	(360) 902-2051

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Matthew Keifer	University of Washington (UW)	(206) 616-1452
Alice Larson	General Public	(206) 463-9000
Maria Victoria Peeler	Department of Ecology	(360) 407-6704
Vacant	Department of Fish & Wildlife	

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Jim Cowles	Department of Agriculture	(360) 902-2066
Ingeborg Cox, MD	Washington Poison Center	(206) 517-2383
Joe Cropley	Washington Poison Center	(206) 517-2383
Philip Dickey	Washington Toxics Coalition	(206) 632-1545
V. Van Hee	Washington Poison Center	(206) 517-2383

PIRT Review Panel Activities

Maryanne Guichard called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. The meeting agenda was approved with additions. The June 16, 2005 meeting minutes were approved as revised.

Proposed Revision of PIRT RCW

Draft recommendations for revisions to RCW 70.104.080-100 Pesticide Panel were distributed to Panel members. Members are asked to send comments on the draft to Ann Wick two weeks prior to the September 15, 2005 PIRT meeting.

2005 Action Recommendations

There were no updates on actions taken on the 2005 Action Recommendations.

PIRT Annual Reports

The 2004 PIRT Annual Report is ready for publication. Hard copies will be distributed and it will be posted on the PIRT web page (<http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/ts/PIRT.HTM>) within the next three weeks.

Member agencies reported on the status of submission of 2004 data for the 2005 PIRT Annual Report.

Science Corner

Time will be allotted on future PIRT agendas for discussion of recent scientific papers on pesticides. Suggestions by panel members included: focus on articles relating to the PIRT mission, allot 15 minutes for discussion of two scientific articles, include human and animal studies, have panel members send articles of interest to Steve Gilbert (project facilitator), and Lucy will distribute articles to all panel members for review two weeks prior to the meeting. It was recommended that the panel member who submits the study will lead the discussion.

PIRT Meeting Management

Bill Robertson led a discussion on management of the PIRT meetings. Recommendations included more timely distribution of meeting materials and agendas, maintaining the agenda time schedule, notifying panel members of important actions by members (for example, the recent JAMA publication on pesticides in schools), and the role of the panel in making recommendations to member agencies and the legislature.

Presentation

Philip Dickey, PhD, from the Washington Toxics Coalition, presented “Insecticide Concentrations in Thornton Creek and Comparison to Retail Sales” based on the paper co-authored with Dean Wilson, *Comparison Between Consumer Sales of Diazinon and Carbaryl and Water Quality in an Urban Stream*. The report included data on retail sales of products containing diazinon and carbaryl at Lowe’s and Home Depot Stores in King County from 1997-2002. Sales decreased after EPA announced phase out of diazinon in December, 2000. He indicated that diazinon concentrations decreased and carbaryl concentrations increased in Thornton Creek between January 1996 and January 2003. Follow-up discussion included consumer education on the use of pesticides within the water shed and using surveys to determine whether residents were dumping pesticide products in drains.

Agency Updates

Agriculture

Presentations on Washington's ChE monitoring results have been extremely well received. Ann Wick and John Furman (L&I) were co-presenters at the annual meeting of the Association of American Pesticide Control Officials (AAPCO) in Florida and Margaret Tucker (WSDA) presented results at the national pesticide Certification and Training meeting in Wisconsin. EPA is very interested in the results coming from the WA tests and in the analysis of possible causes for depressions. The second year of testing has shown fewer instances of depression and it is thought that most exposures are from not paying attention to required prevention procedures rather than a

need for more restrictive rules. EPA may also look at a possible label change on respirator requirements.

WSDA has received additional funding from the legislature for farmworker education from L&I insurance funds for the next biennium. A stakeholder group met and discussed possible directions for the program. WSDA was encouraged by the group to continue current work and direction and expand wherever possible. WSDA is looking at doing a focused newsletter in Spanish and English on Cholinesterase depressions and pesticide use and what growers and handlers can do to prevent exposures based on the ChE program results.

WSDA is working with AAPCO nationally on pesticide container recycling. Although Washington has had a successful program for several years, the national program is in financial trouble. Federal financing of the program may be one solution.

Health

The DOH report on the Grandview Warehouse Fire is forthcoming and should be available for review by the PIRT Panel soon.

DOH has received notice that the NIOSH grant they applied for a year ago has been successful and the project will move forward. Dorothy provided a summary handout on the 5-year project.

DOH staff attended a pesticide air monitoring workshop in Yakima on August 08, 2005. Results from California air monitoring of pesticides were presented. Many of the levels detected in ambient air in agricultural communities exceeded recommended health-based values. The presenter was a Ph.D. chemist from Pesticide Action Network.

Labor and Industries

L&I is preparing a Request For Proposal (RFP) to find a commercial lab alternative to the DOH Public Health Lab for doing ChE analyses after 2005. Negotiations will include a transition year (2006) with analyses performed by both DOH and the commercial lab. Minor changes are recommended in the ChE monitoring rule.

Cholinesterase monitoring to date for 2005:

- 2201 workers are participating in the ChE monitoring program
- 600 workers have had at least one blood test in addition to the baseline
- 58 employees have ChE depression >20%
- The 58 employees work for 27 individual employers
- 9 of the 58 employees were removed from pesticide handling
- Tree fruit and grapes are the crops most commonly involved

L&I visits the work site when an employee has a ChE depression greater than 20%. The visits are conducted under L&I's research capacity and are not compliance inspections or consultations. To date for 2005, L&I has done 40 research investigations triggered by a reported ChE depression. Employers are generally cooperative in scheduling site visits at the earliest possible convenience. Average time from notification to initiating the site investigation is about 12 days. Average time to

initiating the site investigation in response to an exposure removal is about 9 days. That is less than half the response time from last year.

WPC

The transition of sending pesticide exposure information to DOH has mostly been smooth. WPC is working on reporting of non-pesticide conditions to DOH.

Future Meetings

Location of Future Meetings

PIRT meets on the third Thursday of each month. All Seattle meetings will be held at the State Public Health Lab, 1601 NE 150th Street, Room S4. The Olympia area meetings for the remainder of the year will be at the Department of Health, 7211 Cleanwater Lane, Building 15 Conference Room, Tumwater.

September 15, 2005 – Olympia – DOH Building 15

October 20, 2005 – Seattle

November 17, 2005 – Olympia – Town Center One, Room 232

December – No meeting

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 a.m.

For additional information contact Lucy Harter at (360) 236-3356 or lucy.harter@doh.wa.gov.